US ERA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL -----]

NEW SOURCE REVIEW SIMPLIFICATION WORKSHOP

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public meeting (workshop).

SUMMARY: The EPA is considering ways to simplify the new source review (NSR) process. The EPA conducted a public workshop on August 12-13, 1992, in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, to facilitate identifying potential methods for simplifying the NSR process.

Workshop participants identified issues and provided comments on proposed options for simplifying the NSR process. A summary of that workshop is included in docket A-90-37 for the NSR rulemaking.

The EPA is announcing today a second workshop on NSR simplification. The primary purpose of this second workshop is to explore in greater detail a number of the specific issues and recommendations identified on a conceptual basis at the August 1992 workshop. Agenda items to be covered at the workshop include: an in-depth discussion of the plantwide emissions limit concept for NSR applicability, the definition and treatment of environmentally-beneficial projects for NSR purposes, and a consideration of other forums (e.g., regulatory negotiation) for addressing improvements to the NSR program. Other issues may be addressed as well.

In a memorandum dated January 19, 1993, former EPA Administrator William K. Reilly decided to retain, for the present time, the Agency's so-called "top-down" policy for determining best available control technology (BACT) under the Clean Air Act's prevention of significant deterioration (PSD) program. In addition, he recommended that the Agency consider improvements in the BACT process as one element of the overall effort to simplify NSR. As a result of that recommendation, options for improving the PSD program requirement for BACT will also be discussed.

Approximately forty selected representatives from industry, environmental organizations, other Federal agencies, EPA Regions, and State/local air pollution control agencies, who are knowledgeable on the NSR rules, will be invited to serve as principle spokespersons to discuss various NSR topics. Members

of the general public will also be given an opportunity to provide their comments.

The workshop is not subject to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, as amended. DATES: The workshop will convene on March 17, 1993, from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.; and March 18, 1993, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Written comments may be submitted until April 18, 1993, to Wm. Larry Elmore, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, New Source Review Section (MD-15), Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711, telephone (919) 541-5433; telefax (919) 541-5509. ADDRESSES: This workshop will be held at the Sheraton Inn University Center, 2800 Middleton Avenue, Durham, North Carolina 27705, telephone (919) 383-8575

DOCKET: A summary of this workshop will also be included in docket A-90-37 for the NSR rulemaking, including all written comments submitted within 30 days of the workshop. The docket is available for public inspection and copying between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., weekdays, at EPA's Air Docket (LE-131), Room M-1500, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460. A reasonable fee may be charged for copying.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: The workshop will be open to the public. Seating for interested members of the public will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis and will begin at 7:30 a.m. each day of the workshop.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: JoAnn Allman, New Source Review Section, Mail Drop 15, Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27711 [telephone (919) 541-5591; telefax (919) 541-5509].

Date

John S. Seitz Director Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards